

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election without providing equal time for either pro-Kerry or anti-Bush coverage is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, as consumers we get media coverage that conforms to the bias of the large corporation rather than what we need to make informed decisions as part of the democratic process. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.

Thank you.